

The NEWSETTE . *Echoes from Bryan Hill*

Vol. IV

JULY, 1939

Number 9

Annual Meeting Held by Trustees

The trustees of the University met in the annual meeting of the board on Tuesday, June 6. In addition to routine business, such as approving the candidates for degrees, the Trustees gave special consideration to the outcome of the emergency building program, that which still needs to be done before another school year, and the financial problems, incident to the program, that remain unsolved. Of chief concern is the financial relief of staff members that have borne more than their share of the load during the building construction. Adjourned meetings of the board during the summer will continue to work on these problems.

ALUMNI ELECT OFFICERS

At a dinner honoring the graduates of the class of '39, Bryan alumni met on the Tuesday before commencement and elected officers to serve for the coming year. Those chosen were: W. L. Colvin, class of '35, president; Logan Rector, class of '34, vice president; and Sara Llewellyn, class of '39, secretary-treasurer.

The dinner, which was served in the university dining hall, was semi-formal. Including guests, thirty were present.

FORD RECEIVES

P. A. BOYD PRIZE

At the Commencement Exercises President Rudd announced the selection of Forrest Saunders Ford ("Rhody" to the students) as this year's recipient of the P. A. Boyd prize for outstanding qualities of leadership, character, and moral influence, especially with regard to promoting abstinence from alcoholic beverages and from use of tobacco. "I sure was surprised," said Rhody. "I plan to keep the money until fall and use it to pay my train fare to seminary."

Wanted: Regular Contributors To the Budget

The editorial in this issue of the NEWSETTE describes the challenge that faces the William Jennings Bryan University in providing a Godly Christian education to many worthy, serious-minded young people that are not able to pay for their schooling. As limited as we are financially, we cannot turn away from this God-given responsibility to the many young people that are asking for "only a chance to make good."

Our many friends share in this responsibility, too, in spite of their limited finances. If every friend will give what he can monthly or quarterly, there will be enough—with "twelve baskets full" left over. Will you do what the Lord wants you to do in this matter?

Gregg and Maxwell Speak at Exercises

The high spot of this year's commencement activities, however, to the graduating class as well as to the spectators, was the awarding of diplomas to eight seniors. This climaxed a program at which Rev. Maxwell was the guest speaker. Rev. Maxwell's address emphasized the necessity of the Christian's dying, that he might experience the power of Christ in his life.

At the baccalaureate service, held early in June in the Rhea Central High School Building in Dayton, Dr. Harris H. Gregg, well-known Bible teacher, author, and pastor, delivered a powerful message which had as its theme the truth, today so little recognized, that in Jesus Christ is all wisdom and all knowledge. Dr. Gregg pointed out that many of the world's greatest scientists have been sincere Christians. Among the names mentioned in support of this statement was that of Sir Isaac Newton, discoverer of the law of gravitation.

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GOSPEL SINGERS LAUNCH TOUR

Two groups of Bryan University Gospel Singers are now "singing the glorious gospel of grace," one going north and east and the other journeying to the south and west. The first group to leave, the male quartet, began their all-summer tour Monday, June 12, their first engagement being at a tent meeting sponsored by the Cane Creek Baptist Church, at Fairview, North Carolina. From there they are traveling northward, holding services at Asheville and Hendersonville, North Carolina; South Hill, Dolphin, and Petersburg, Virginia; Boonsboro and Baltimore, Maryland; Lancaster, Coatesville, Allentown, Aldan, Swarthmore, and other cities in Pennsylvania; Newport, Newark, and Atlantic City in New Jersey; and on up into the state of New York, singing twice in New York City. Other states included in the trip are

Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, and West Virginia. Those making this tour are: Forrest Ford, first tenor; Ty Pray, second tenor; Dean Geary, first bass; Edward Paul, second bass; Miss Julia Anna Yancey, director; and Miss Mildred Kuntz.

Going south and west is the ladies' quartet, which will sing at Rockwood and Memphis, Tennessee; Rome, Dalton, and Trion, Georgia; Birmingham, Bessemer, Decatur, and Anniston, Alabama; Fulton and Amory, Mississippi; St. Louis, Missouri; Leavenworth and Olathe, Kansas; Waterloo, Iowa; and other cities, before returning home in August. Those in the group are: Mabel Arnold, first soprano; Ruth Toliver, second soprano; Rebecca Peck, first alto; Margaret Lowe, second alto; Howard Kee, pianist, and Dean D. W. Ryther, director.

THE NEWSETTE

Rebecca Peck.....Editor
Mabel Arnold.....Circulation Manager
Ruth Toliver.....Reporter
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Dean Geary.....Reporter
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Published monthly by
William Jennings Bryan University
Dayton, Tennessee

Entered as second-class matter, March
13, 1937, at the post office at Dayton,
Tennessee, under the Act of August 24,
1912.

JULY, 1939

— God Above All —

BRYAN UNIVERSITY

FACES A CHALLENGE

From the beginning, Bryan University has been a school with a distinctive message and a distinctive field of service. Established as the outcome of a struggle to uphold the Tennessee Anti-Evolution Law and to combat the inroads of modernism in the church, Bryan University has not only been a memorial to the Great Commoner but it has pursued a more fundamental objective in furnishing young people with a Godly education under auspices distinctly Christian and spiritual.

For those that have supported Bryan University in its establishment and maintenance, it has been a means of testifying to certain fundamental Bible and Christian doctrines that are agreed upon by the great majority of true Christians. It has been and will continue to be a means of expression for many Christians that are conscientious objectors to the infiltration of atheism and modernism into Christian circles. Bryan University from the beginning has not only been against that which poisons the life blood of the church, but it has been for every essential to the welfare and continuance of New Testament Christianity.

In its development, Bryan University has come to have a student body representing the nation and not simply the immediate locality. Housed in borrowed and rented buildings at the beginning, it is now located altogether on its own campus. As might be expected, the students are primarily interested in a life of Christian service either as full-time Christian

workers, or as active laymen. Most students not so interested at the time of enrollment soon embrace such a program as their God-given calling.

"We learn to do by doing," and this practical teaching is found particularly applicable in Christian service. The University has become an active testimony for Christ through Bible conferences, street meetings, jail services, rural community services, cottage prayer meetings and personal witnessing. Bryan is becoming widely known through the Sunday School Lesson Outlines, traveling groups of Gospel Singers and the tracts and other literature coming from the Bryan Press.

Opening its doors in 1930, the University has, we believe providentially, been directed into a special field of service that co-ordinates well with the other objectives. This is a day when young people are facing unusual difficulties in adjusting themselves to the responsibilities of adult life. On the one hand they are faced with the problems of a breakdown in our economic system. As young people put it, "we are just trapped." On the other hand they are reaping the results of a generation of modernism, atheism and spiritual decay. "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge." As a result young people are seeking either or both of two objectives. They are seeking a way out of their situation economically and they are seeking a knowledge of eternal values and realities. Every school is receiving many inquiries from prospective students that are willing to live under a regime of strict economy to get a college education, but we are undoubtedly receiving an undue proportion of such inquiries because we have become known as a school where a student can earn a goodly portion of his expenses, even though we are not organized as a school of the industrial arts. When we have had such outstanding success with such students, many of them proving to be most unusual young people, we are challenged by the many inquiries that we are now receiving from this type of young people.

When Christ said "Give ye them to eat," He said it to disciples that had no material resources at hand, and a similar challenge is ours today. What shall our answer be? What is your answer, friend and supporter of Bryan University?

CLASS HONORS ANNOUNCED

The conclusion of this school year marks the end of nine years during which Bryan University has offered its educational advantages to young people from various states. Some have completed only one or two years' work while others have graduated from the four-year course.

After four years at Bryan, Janet Webb, of Oliverea, N. Y., carried highest honors in this year's graduating class with an average of 90.3 per cent., while the class average was 87 per cent.

From the freshman class whose average was 84.9 per cent, Grace Levengood, of Dayton, led with an average of 94.3 per cent., followed closely by Dean Geary, of Altoona, Pa., with an average of 93.3 per cent.

Harriet White, of Gunnison, Colo., with an average of 91.5 per cent., and Daniel Hirschy, of Evans City, Pa., with 90.8 per cent., were the highest two students from the sophomore class, which had an average of 85.8 per cent.

With the highest class average, 89 per cent, the juniors were led by Connie Penick, with an average of 93.3 per cent., and her brother, Landis Penick, with an average of 91.4 per cent. The Penicks are residents of Clearfield, Pa.

BRYAN'S SPEECHES

Lovers of oratory and "book worms" might well perk up their ears and listen attentively to the news from Grand Rapids, Michigan, where at 815 Franklin Street, S. E., the Zondervan Publishing House is offering a two-volume set of William Jennings Bryan's speeches. These neatly bound volumes originally sold for two dollars and fifty cents a set. Today they may be obtained from the Zondervan House for just forty cents, a bargain of unusual value, to be sure. Postage is added, by the way. Or, if you prefer, send your order to the University, enclosing fifty cents, and we shall have the volumes mailed to you postpaid. But here's the rub: only 120 sets were on the shelf last month, and the University has ordered some of them. If you are interested—better hurry! Remember—the early worm catches the book, and the early book-worm catches the bargains.

STUDENTS HIKE IN SHOWERS

Frequently hikers' plans are interrupted by the weather conditions—but not so with the twenty Bryan students and faculty chaperons who had planned a hike for one Saturday afternoon. After waiting for an hour for the rain to stop, the determined hikers set out between showers.

At the place selected for the picnic supper, the bright spirits of the already camped hikers found pleasure in a baseball game. Having thus aroused a good appetite, barbecue and corned beef with a final course of ice cream met the needs and anticipations of the picnickers.

Mountain Mission Conference

The regular monthly meeting of the Tennessee Mountain Mission, of which Rev. A. J. Levensgood is founder and director, was held at the University on Tuesday, May 23. The guest speakers, Rev. and Mrs. Warren Ranney, of Southern California, addressed the mission workers at two services, including the message to the student body in the morning chapel service.

As home mission workers, Rev. and Mrs. Ranney are associated with the Child Evangelism Fellowship, supervising numerous Bible study classes for children in their district in California.

In telling how to teach the children about the Lord Jesus, Mrs. Ranney pointed out the four aims for a teacher: namely, to lead the pupils to Christ, to establish them in the Word of God, to lead them into a life of victory, and to teach them to be soul-winners.

Several helpful suggestions were given as to methods of teaching the children through the eye. In order to illustrate the Bible stories, figures representing the characters were placed upon a flannel-covered board. The gospel walnut with its six colors of ribbon revealed a clever way to teach the children the way of salvation from sin through the blood of Christ, growth in grace and separation unto the service of Christ, looking for the blessed hope of eternity in heaven with the Lord Jesus.

The Newsette

Gospel Singers Present Recital

On Monday night, June 5, the University Gospel Singers, under the direction of Miss Julia Anna Yancey, head of the music department, gave an informal recital of gospel music, using the ladies' quartet, which includes the Misses Mabel Arnold, Ruth Toliver, Margaret Lowe, and Rebecca Peck; the male quartet and the male trio, which include the Messrs. Forrest Ford, Ty Pray, Edward Paul, and Dean Geary; solos by Ty Pray and Edward Paul; and a trumpet solo by Dean Geary. The pianist for the occasion was Mr. Howard Kee. The futuristic program was given in the form of the tenth annual commencement season at Bryan with the singers coming back to school for a reunion and getting together quite accidentally.

Immediately after the recital, there was an exhibit of the art work done by Miss Yancey's art class during the last year. A great deal of natural talent and ability was evident in the display.

The president's reception was held on the same evening, affording a time of happy fellowship for all who were present. A number of Dayton people were in attendance.

Evangelist Speaks

When he visited the University recently, Mr. Logan Rector, a graduate of '34, was accompanied by Rev. Oscar Gibson, evangelist, from Louisville, Ky., who was then holding evangelistic services in Pikeville, Tennessee.

As he spoke to the staff and student body, Rev. Gibson gave a message on the person and work of the Holy Spirit. "Without the power of the Holy Spirit we are useless in dealing with sinners," stated the evangelist as he mentioned the five-fold work of the Holy Spirit: to witness to the truth in regard to Jesus Christ, to convict the lost of sin, to regenerate the soul and bring new birth, to sanctify the Christian, and to seal the believer.

MILLER SPEAKS IN CHAPEL

During commencement week, Rev. and Mrs. Earl Miller and daughter were the guests of Rev. and Mrs. Levensgood. Rev. Miller, of Berlin, Ohio, was formerly associated with Rev. Levensgood in Christian work, while the latter was pastor in New Bedford, Ohio. In order to present the work of the Tennessee Mountain Mission and the Rural Bible Crusade to the Christian people in various churches, Rev. Miller has been appointed as field representative for this mission work.

On Thursday morning, June 1, Rev. Miller brought a message to the chapel congregation from II. Pet. 1:1-11. In the first four verses is mentioned God's part to us as He imparts His gifts of precious faith, grace, peace—yea, all things. In return our part is simply that of growth, by adding to our faith virtue and to virtue knowledge and the other fruits of the Spirit. Finally the result of the fulfillment of our part to God is an abundant entrance into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

FISH VISITS

Arriving on the evening of the Alumni dinner, Lloyd Fish, instructor in mathematics and psychology, visited for ten days with his wife and friends at Bryan. He has returned to Wheaton College, where he is pursuing work leading to a master's degree in Christian education. The degree is expected to be conferred in August.

GREGG AND MAXWELL SPEAK AT EXERCISES

- Continued from page 1 -

On the following Tuesday evening, at the conclusion of the annual alumni dinner, an appealing vesper service was held around the fish pond at the Octagon. Rev. L. E. Maxwell, of Three Hills, Alberta, Canada, spoke, taking for his message the thought of crucifixion in the life of the Christian. After this outdoor service, a communion service was held in the library reading-room, Rev. A. J. Levensgood being in charge.

Bachelor of Arts degrees were conferred on Janet Webb, William Kerr, Ty Pray, Sara Llewellyn, Forrest Ford, and Anne Walton. Bachelor of Science degrees were conferred on James Darrell and Edward deRosset.

Page Three

PRINTERS ENJOY

OUTDOOR MEAL

Starting off at 7 o'clock on the last morning of the school year, the Gutenberg Club, eight members strong, drove to the Big Rock in the Richland Creek for an enjoyable outdoor breakfast. Temporary consternation was caused when it was discovered that the drinking cups had been left at home. However, after the cooking-fire was built in a quickly-made rock fire-place, eggs and bacon were fried and eaten. After a few minor exploration trips up the creek, the party turned back in time for the commencement exercises.

The Gutenberg Club is composed of the members of the student body and staff who work regularly in the University printing shop.

"JUST TO PLEASE HIM"

Another visit from Miss Martha Pohnert, missionary to Alaska, proved a blessing as she brought a message from the simple but profound truths of God's Word.

Among other phases of missionary work, Miss Pohnert has been especially interested in children, and she told briefly how children respond to the message of God's love and encouragement in living for Him.

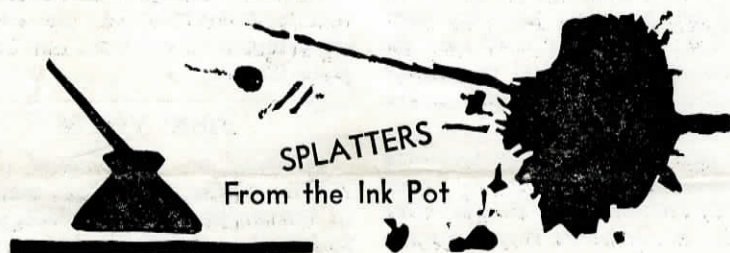
After briefly relating some of her experiences with the children, Miss Pohnert presented a challenge to each Christian to live "just to please Him." Because of the blessings of salvation and the promise of everlasting life through Jesus Christ, how willing every Christian should be to surrender all, that he might please the Saviour.

Toliver Visits

War Area

Ralph Toliver, who is en route to Pengshan, West Szechwan, China, where he has been stationed for missionary work, sends us these interesting notes:

Coming down to Hong Kong, the only port in which we stopped was Swatow. The Japanese have recently bombed it again. Just the week before they had bombed it three days straight. . . . One of the other interesting things we saw in Swatow was a man carrying two baskets full of snakes. Some were alive—very much so—and others were in halves, in process of being sold out for snake steak, snake soup, and what have you. . . . We are all very pleasantly surprised with Hong Kong. . . . It is the most western place that we have seen in the East, and it was surely nice to get something of the "at home" feeling. . . . We met a Mr. Knight, who, with his wife, went through the awful bombing at Shunking a few days ago. They came down to Hong Kong by air, being en route to New Zealand for furlough. Mr. Knight was on the streets when one of the bombing raids took place, and one of the Japanese pills fell in a building just across the street from where he and another C. I. M. man were. It has been truly marvelous how the Lord has protected His own in this land during the past two years."



Paul Perkins: Arrived home safely about 2 o'clock today . . . fine trip. . . . Hit about a bucketful of bugs. . . . My foot is much better. . . . Hope you are all well. Love and kisses.

* * *

Ralph Gibson: On the Mississippi river. . . . We're about to land on the Missouri side after being on the water about an hour. . . . Not seasick yet. Rom. 8:28 is still holding true for us.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Webb and Janet: En route Salem, Va. . . . We got here safe in good condition except tired. . . . Sorry we did not get to say good-bye. Best regards to all.

* * *

Juanita Lathrem: My mother met me at the depot at Frankfort, Ky. She seems to be all right. . . . I hope everything is O.K. at Bryan. I left the remaining Bryan students at Lexington. Yours in Him.

The Penicks: En route, Massillon, O. Had a nice trip. . . . No troubles at all. Have taken Louise and Leona home.

* * *

Mildred Kuntz: Just arrived at the home of Rev. Sinclair. It is a lively country home. . . . Had wonderful service last night. . . . Three souls were saved in Fairview.

* * *

The Whites: After getting off the ferry the boys pumped up the tire and stopped to fix it at Wyatt at 9 p.m. . . . Had another flat at 10:40. . . . Spent the night at Dexter. . . . Left at 4:45 a.m. . . . Had to buy a new tube. . . . At Mansfield, Mo., we started using used oil in the car because it was throwing it out the front main. About 23 miles from Springfield the Chevy knocked out two connecting rod bearings. . . . The boys did a knock-down repair job by the

roadside. Slept in the weeds that night. . . . Left again at 11:35 a.m., Saturday the 10th. Had to hold to 20 miles per hour for some distance and then no higher than thirty. Crossed Kansas line at 6:20 last night. Car began to knock. Slept on the side of a corn field last night and the boys tightened the bearings this morning. Rolling again at 8:50 a.m. Will have to hold to about 30 miles per hour. Still Colorado-bound. Trusting in Him.